



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

October 15, 2003

Ernest Crowley
Project Manager
P.O. Box 188
Minden, NV 89423

RE: Request of information for Pine View Estates Development: schematics for development of all phases; hydrogeologic information; and UIC Class V inventory forms

Dear Mr. Crowley:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has direct regulatory responsibility on tribal lands to ensure that underground injection control (UIC) activities do not pose a threat to ground water quality or public health, and that owners and operators are in compliance with all application federal regulations.

Underground injection is the technology of placing fluids underground through wells or other similar conveyance systems. The fluids may be water, wastewater or water mixed with chemicals. A Class V UIC shallow injection well includes onsite wastewater systems that serve at least 20 persons per day, including community leachfields or septic systems. During my initial visit to Pine View Estates with Ray May Jr. on May 20, 2003 and through subsequent conversations with you, it is my understanding that there are several community leachfields at Pine View Estates which as stated above are defined as Class V UIC wells.

Per federal UIC regulations 40 C.F.R. §144.26, owners and operators of UIC wells are required to submit inventory information. Per 40. C.F.R. §144.27, EPA can ask for additional information to determine whether a well may endanger an underground source of drinking water.

Given this role and as a follow-up to several conversations that we have had in the past months, I am requesting the following information regarding the existing and future development at Pine View Estates: the schematics for all phases of the Pine View Estates Development, any accompanied hydrogeologic data and completed UIC inventory forms.

The schematics should include a scaled map of homes, septic tanks, community drainfields, drinking water well(s), distribution and collection piping and elevation for the area. The hydrogeologic information should include soil type, a description of a representative profile in the drainfield area, percolation test data and ground water elevation. Additionally, we would like a copy of any protocols for septic system maintenance and operation. This should include a pumping schedule and sludge disposal.

Attached is a copy of an UIC inventory form for your convenience. It is your responsibility to submit the inventory form(s) for all existing Class V UIC wells and any other requested information. Also, EPA must be informed of any new Class V wells prior to construction to ensure that ground water is being protected.

Inventory forms and all other requested documentation for the Pine View Estates Development project should be post-marked by November 5, 2003 and sent to:

USEPA
Kate Rao/Eric Byous
Ground Water Office (WTR-9)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

If you have any questions about the UIC program or your requirements as an owner/operator of a Class V well, please contact me at 415-972-3533 or Eric Byous at 415-972-3531.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kate Rao", is written over a horizontal line.

Kate Rao
Ground Water Office

Enclosure

cc: Ray May, Pine View Estates
Curtis Milsap, BIA (with enclosure)
Greg Phillips, EPA